

Living Lands & Waters



2002 Annual Report

Committed to the

Beautification & Restoration

of Our Land's Rivers

Coming To a River Near You...

Dear Supporters and Friends,

In the words of Dag Hammarskjöld, “For what has been—thanks. For what will be—yes.” In the summer of 2002 Chad celebrated his sixth anniversary of cleaning up the river. The official celebration was on the levee in the Quad Cities. Hundreds attended and were treated to music, food and a tour of *Living Lands & Waters*’ (LL&W) new floating educational center and sleeping quarters. This recent addition to our “fleet” was a gift of an old barge from a friend of LL&W. Chad and crew went to work rehabilitating the barge and have given it new life. The barge will serve as a safe, reliable bunkhouse and diner for the crew and will become an educational center for the young and old as Chad travels up and down the Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois and Ohio Rivers.

This celebration was a moment to look back on with pride, laughter and some tears. It wasn’t that long ago when the cleanup effort was a single boat, one determined young man and his dog. The anniversary was also a moment to look forward to sweaty days and cleaner shores, to communities conducting multiple cleanups on their own, and to people flocking to the LL&W educational center to broaden and deepen their understanding of the majesty and fragility of our rivers. The future is brimming with excitement.

I could not conclude my remarks without offering profound thanks to Chad and his crew for “Getting it done, day in and day out, in all kinds of weather.” I extend sincere thanks to the Board of Directors and administrative staff who spends more time than they ever dreamed they would strengthening the structure of LL&W so Chad is not burdened by such concerns. And a hearty thanks to all of you—friends and supporters of LL&W. Without you, Chad’s efforts would still be the single boat, a determined young man and a black lab.

Sincerely,

Curtis Lundy
Board Chairman, 2002



Dear Friends of the Rivers,

I am so very appreciative of your continued interest and support of *Living Lands & Waters* (LL&W). You are the reason that thousands of miles of shoreline have been cleaned on the Mississippi, Rock, Illinois, Missouri and Ohio Rivers, along with the thousands of volunteers who have teamed with us to make our rivers a better place. It may sound like a cliché, but it is exactly what we are all doing—one river, one mile, one piece of garbage at a time.

2002 has been our biggest year for growth and change. Over 3,000 volunteers assisted us with river cleanups. We removed enough trash to fill nine barges. We restored an old barge that is spacious enough for a new floating Educational Center and an “on site” classroom for visitors.

When I first started the project, I quickly learned that I had to develop an efficient river cleanup operation. We worked hard to build up our fleet. It now consists of a restored tug, three barges, four work boats, and four trucks. Because of our equipment, we have been able to cover more shoreline in more communities and to create more opportunities for more volunteers.

Our promise to you from all of us at LL&W is that we will continue to produce **results, not rhetoric**.

We appreciate the opportunity to have worked with you in the past, and we look forward to our future partnership.

Sincerely,

Chad Pregracke
Founder & President

LIVING LANDS & WATERS' MISSION:

To aid in the protection, preservation and restoration of the natural environment of the nation's major rivers and their watersheds.

To expand awareness of environmental issues and responsibility encompassing the river.

To create a desire and an opportunity for stewardship and responsibility for a cleaner river environment.

ON BOARD

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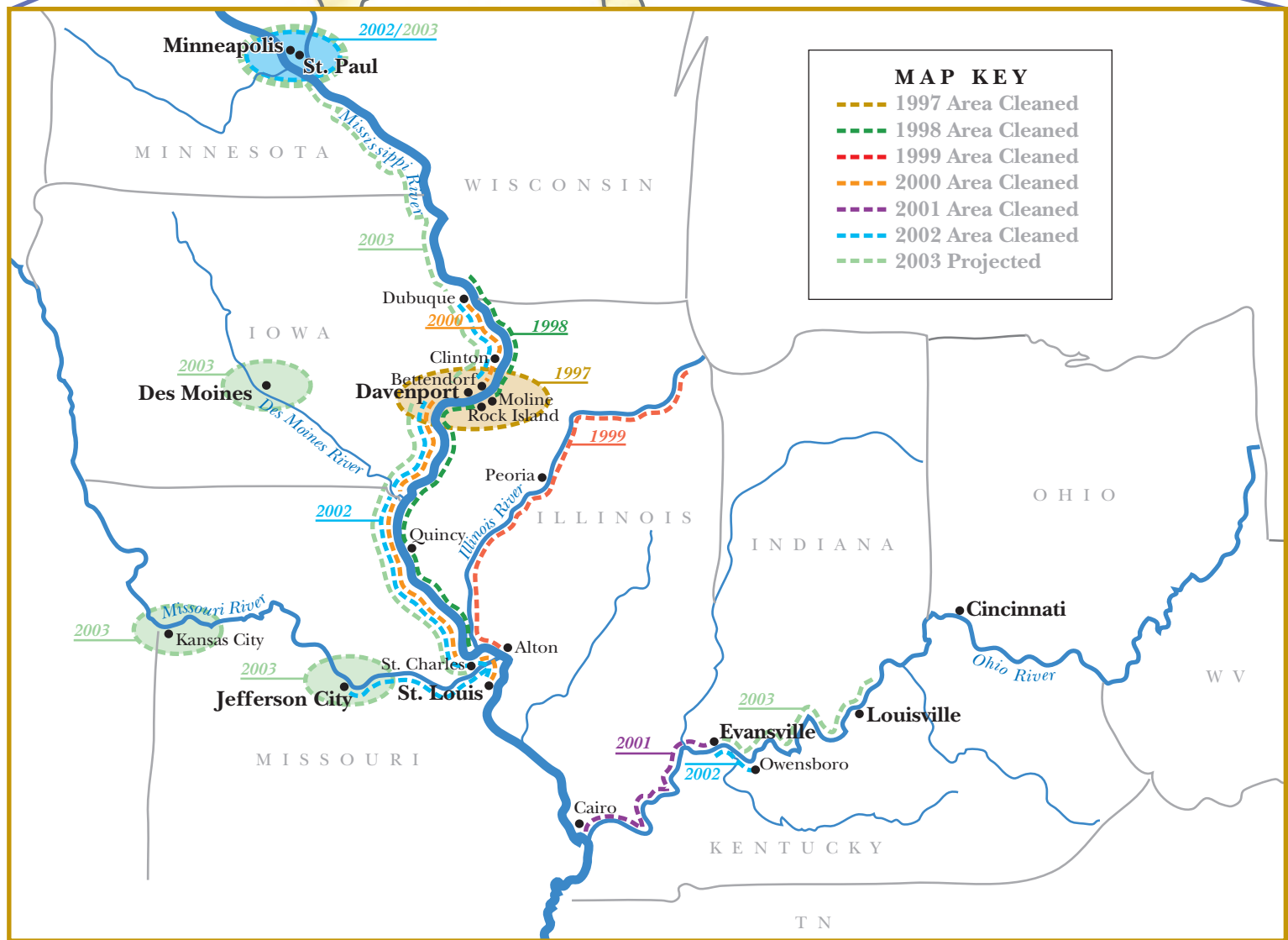
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Did You Know?

- The geographic focus for *Living Lands & Waters* is a seven state area...MN, WI, IL, IA, IN, MO & KY.
- Focused cleanups continue on the three largest rivers in the nation.
- There have been 54 community river cleanups since 1999...23 in 2002!
- 3,000 volunteers took part in cleanup efforts in 2002.
- We have removed an estimated 800 tons of trash project-to-date.

“...results, not rhetoric.”

338 antifreeze bottles • 70 washing machines
2,330 55-gallon drums 80 stoves • 129 gas cans
83 water heaters • 49 sinks • 32 freezers • 50 BBQ grills
34 bicycles • 178 coolers • 32 toilets • 242 milk crates
5,970 balls • 380 chairs • 54 buoys • 26 dishwashers
1 1920s International tractor

8,272 tires

1,000 square feet of carpet
128 herbicide/pesticide containers • 75 televisions
12 bathtubs • 5 mufflers • 35 duck decoys • 6 motorcycles
675 refrigerators 5 car engines • 15 air conditioners
29 plastic trash cans • 31 pontoon floats • 63 tarps
3 car transmissions • 15 lawn mowers • 25 250-gallon
drums • 18 v-bottom boats

449 propane tanks

42 tire rims • 120 paint cans • 3 tops of school buses
1 Ford Econoline van • 230 feet of rubber hose
75 mattresses 1,080 5-gallon buckets 1 septic tank
5 messages in a bottle • 58 life jackets • 1 grand piano
6,460 feet of barge rope • 2,000 feet of barge cable
340 feet of culvert • 1 John Deere riding mower
4 football fields of foot-thick styrofoam

50 feet of chain-link fence • 100 feet of barbed wire
1 1957 International truck • 100 feet of antenna

6,198 55-gallon bags of trash

50 feet of fiberglass • 1 1950s
farm tractor • 50 pounds of
banded wire

144 tons

***AN ESTIMATED
800 TONS OF
TRASH HAVE BEEN REMOVED
FROM AMERICA'S RIVERS!***



2002 Donations ▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲

\$50,000 and up

Alcoa Foundation
Anheuser-Busch
The Argosy Foundation
Marquette Transportation (In Kind)

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Anonymous Donor
Cargill
Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust
Caterpillar, Inc.
Lafarge Corporation
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Upper River Services (In Kind)

\$10,000 - \$24,999

American Honda Motor Co. Inc.
Blackhawk Fleet Inc. (In Kind)
Cargo Carriers
City of Davenport
Hunt and Diane Harris Family Foundation
Ingram Barge Co.
Propeller Club of the United States
Scott County Regional Authority

\$5,000 - \$9,999

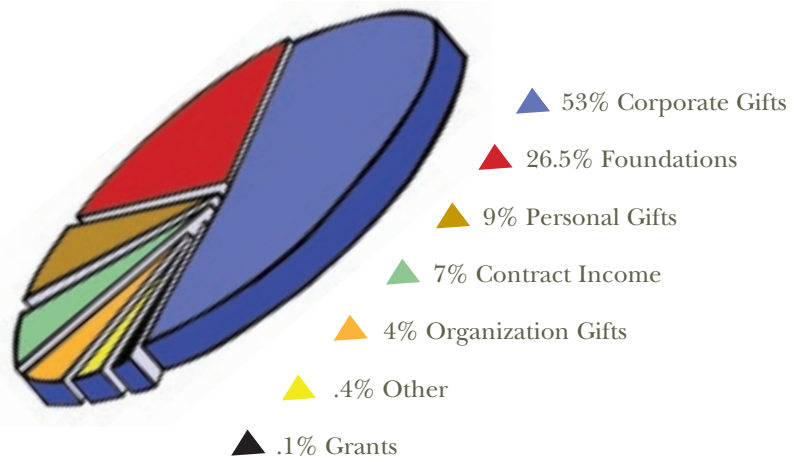
ACBL
Alcoa, Davenport Works
ARTCO
City of Moline
City of Rock Island
Community Foundation of the Great River Bend
The Conservation Fund
Deere & Company
Kirby Inland Marine
Mars Foundation
Quad-City Times
Riverstone Group (In Kind)
Riverway (In Kind and Financial)
Sea Ark Boats (In Kind)

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Arnold Anderson
American Waterway
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Ford Motor Company
The Harper Family
Lundy Corporation
Moline Foundation
Mumford Family Foundation
National Maintenance and Repair (In Kind)
Northern Border Pipeline Company
QC Online/Cityline (In Kind)
Roth Family Foundation
Ruth Palmer
Shewry Limited Partnership
3M
Wendling Quarries, Inc. (In Kind)

Under \$1,000

251 individual and small business donations totaling \$25,484.29
*TECO contributed \$5,000 in the fourth quarter of 2001 for use in fiscal year 2002.



“*Living Lands & Waters* is a perfect partner for Caterpillar and our commitment toward social and environmental responsibility. As a genuine grassroots organization, infused with the enthusiasm and passion of its founder, *Living Lands & Waters* serves as an outstanding role model of what can be done with perseverance, integrity and commitment. If you want to identify a group who leaves the world better than it found it, you need look no farther than *Living Lands & Waters*.”

—Henry Holling *Social Responsibility Initiatives Manager,
Caterpillar Inc.*

Living Lands & Waters is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.
All donations are tax deductible.

2002 Expenses

PROJECT EXPENSES

Crew Salaries	\$126,302.42
Payroll Taxes	12,264.17
Health Insurance	2,513.71
Workman's Compensation Insurance	10,704.00
Retirement Contribution	9,360.00
PROJECT PERSONNEL EXPENSES	161,144.30
Pilot Fees	16,495.00
Cleanup Workers	15,518.75
Contract Labor	26,446.00
CONTRACTED SERVICES	58,459.75
Lodging	5,326.85
Food	14,323.06
Groceries	4,273.37
Travel	6,269.78
TRAVEL & LODGING EXPENSES	30,193.06
Gas/Oil	24,268.97
Operating Supplies	24,838.51
Safety Supplies	1,720.12
Small Tools	1,254.95
Equipment Rental	1,040.86
Disposal Costs	2,816.77
OPERATING EXPENSES	55,940.18
Vehicle Repairs	10,002.37
Marine Repairs	18,187.60
Equipment Repairs	4,444.89
Computer Repairs	485.09
Building Repairs	16,343.97
REPAIR EXPENSES	49,463.92
Insurance—Auto	3,989.00
Insurance—Marine	12,870.00
Insurance—Other	10,718.58
Liability Insurance	1,402.00
INSURANCE	28,979.58
Adopt-a River Mile	323.04
Community Cleanups	10,860.05
Other Programs	1,234.32
OTHER PROGRAM EXPENSE	12,417.41
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSE	\$396,598.20

MANAGEMENT & GENERAL EXPENSES

Office Salaries	\$6,634.00
PERSONNEL EXPENSE	6,634.00
Office Rent	3,300.00
Office Supplies & Expenses	10,729.46
Telephone Expenses	20,394.26
Other Office Expenses	2,129.95
OFFICE EXPENSES	36,553.67
Accounting	4,665.00
Consulting	12,031.25
PROFESSIONAL FEES	16,696.25
Website/Internet Fees	1,685.00
Web Pages	200.00
Marketing & Fundraising	12,973.14
PUBLIC RELATIONS	14,858.14
Licenses & Permits	137.00
OTHER MANAGEMENT EXPENSES	137.00
TOTAL MANAGEMENT EXPENSES	\$74,879.06

“It is impressive to see what one ambitious young man with a vision can accomplish in cleaning our rivers. Thanks Chad, for beautifying our waterways. Lafarge North America is proud to support your efforts.”

—Alain Pfaff *Davenport Plant Manager, Lafarge North America*

“Hundreds of Cargill employees have spent time working with Chad and his crew to clean stretches of the Mississippi. They leave the cleanups feeling motivated, challenged, exhausted, filthy and proud of their work. Talk about enriching our communities!”

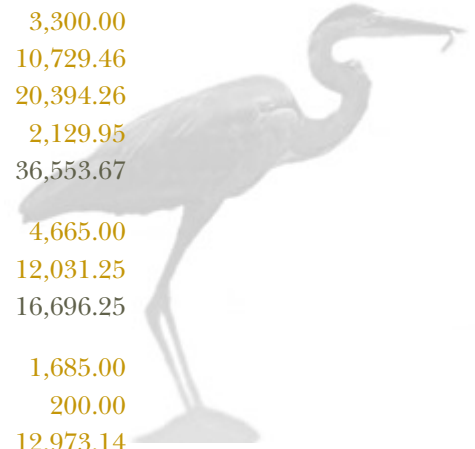
—Gerry Brown *President, Cargill Marine and Terminal, Inc.*

“All of the people at Marquette Transportation Company, Inc., are very proud to be a part of *Living Lands & Waters*. Chad's energy is contagious and causes entire communities and organizations to pool their resources for a common goal.”

—John P. Eckstein *President, Marquette Transportation Company, Inc.*

“*Living Lands & Waters* is all about making a personal commitment to the environment. Chad offers people the opportunity to get up close and personal with the river and change the view of the environment.”

—Donn Waage *Director of Midwest Mississippi River Valley Region, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation*



Adopt-a-River Mile

MILE #	STATE	# OF MILES	ADOPTEE
108-109	IL	2	CYC, Chester
180-181	IL	1	Belleville & E. St. Louis Americorps
212-214	MO	2	Joan Twillman
308-309	MO	1	Hannibal Early Bird/Evening Kiwanis
362-364	IL	2	Sciences, Western IL University
401-403	IA	2	Cascade Boating Co., W. Burlington
403-404	IA/IL	2	Burlington Rotary Club, Burlington
432-433	IL	1	Westmer Elem. School, New Boston
433-434	IL	1	Showalter & Sedam of New Boston
451-453	IA	2	Todd Millage
453-457	IA	4	The Derksen Family, Muscatine
457-462	IA/IL	10	The Morse Family & Friends
462-463	IA	1	Muscatine Izaak Walton League
467-468	IA	1	The Brat Family
468-469	IA	1	Julie Plummer
472-473	IA	1	EarthCARE, St. Paul Lutheran Church
473-474	IA	1	Buffalo Elem. School, Buffalo
474-475	IA	1	Lafarge Corporation-Davenport Plant
476-477	IA	1	Hillcrest Family Services
477-478	IA	1	Doris and Tom Ryan
478-479	IA	1	Augustana College
479-481	IA	2	Izaak Walton League, Davenport Chapter
481-483	IA	2	Moline Conservation Club
479-480	IL	1	American Society of Civil Engineers
481-482	IL	1	Norcross Safety Products
483-486	IL	3	Rock Island Arsenal Volunteers
483-484	IA	1	Iowa American Water Co.
484-485	IA	1	Lindsey Park Yacht Club
485-486	IA	1	U.S. Coast Guard Auxillary, Davenport
486-487	IA	1	Russell Construction Co., Bettendorf
486-487	IL	1	Sierra Club, Eagle View Group, QC
487-488	IA/IL	2	The Jamieson Family, Bettendorf
488-489	IA	1	Alcoa, Inc. Bettendorf
489-491	IA	2	Boy Scout Troop #24
489-491	IL	2	The John Ahern Family, Silvis
491-492	IA	1	Kody Flynn & Katie DeSpain
492-493	IA	1	Scott Community College
493-495	IA/IL	4	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, R.I. District
495-496	IA	1	Gander Mountain, Davenport
498-499	IA	1	Becki Kenton for W.S. Kenton
500-501	IA/IL	2	Northern Border Pipeline Co., Eldridge
503-505	IA/IL	4	The Getz Family, East Moline
505-506	IA	1	Seabee Veterans Assoc. Island X2
506-507	IL	1	Commonwealth Edison, Cordova
519-520	IL	1	Fulton Middle School 7 th Grade, Fulton
520-523	IA	3	The Carey Family
528-529	IA/IL	2	Elk River Paddlers Cooperative,
537-538	IL	1	Chestnut Park School 6-8 Science Class
539-540	IA/IL	2	The Greg Binder Family of Chicago
540-542	IA/IL	4	Lazy River Marina, Savanna
569-573	IL	4	Tuna Beach Association, Dubuque
569-571	IA	2	Tuna Beach Association, Dubuque
581-582	IA/IL	2	Daniel White, East Dubuque
583-584	IA/WI	2	Steve Scheiber, Dubuque
608-609	WI	1	Lake Park Earth Club, Roselle
715-716	WI	1	Vandergriff's of Chicago & Eisenmenger's
814-815	MN	1	Bass Wranglers
847-848	MN	2	Paul McCormick Family
TOTAL		104	MILES ADOPTED

More than 2,300 miles long, the Mississippi River plays a unique and vital role as the sustainer of life in North America. It supports the habitat of hundreds of species of fish, reptiles and mammals. It provides the daily water supply to more than 18 million people and supplies the Gulf of Mexico with 90 percent of its fresh water. The river is steeped in the history of the land and continues to serve as a navigational channel, a recreation destination and tourist attraction. However, after decades of neglect, it needs help to survive.

The Adopt-a-River Mile project began as a way to extend the work of *Living Lands & Waters*. As families, businesses and organizations become stewards of the river by adopting one or more miles, the river stays cleaner. They know the best way to care for the river is to keep it clean. By adopting a Mississippi River Mile they become part of the project. By helping to maintain the cleanup effort, each person makes a positive contribution to the life of the river and to the lives of the people and animals who depend on it.



Biography of Chad

▼▲▼▲ Chad grew up in the Illinois Quad Cities area on the banks of the Mississippi River.

Over the last 27 years he has spent the majority of his time on, in and around the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. While attending high school and college he worked as a commercial shell diver and noticed that the river's environmental condition was getting worse because of the accumulation of trash that could be found everywhere. While still in college, in spring of 1997 he set out to make a difference...one piece at a time. With the help of volunteers, a few dedicated crew members and minimal financial support, they conducted the largest cleanup in the history of the Mississippi River, covering more than 1,200 miles of shoreline and islands. After finishing the Mississippi River in 1998, he began the task of cleaning the Illinois River in spring of 1999. Over two million pounds of trash have been removed since the project began.

Chad's project has been filmed by many of the major networks and featured in numerous national and international magazines. In December 2001, *Biography Magazine* selected Chad as one of the "Top Ten Future Classics" in America, along with Rory Kennedy, Julia Roberts, Tiger Woods and others. An article appeared in the August 2002 edition of *Outside Magazine*. Other articles appear in the January/February 2003 edition of *Philanthropy*, the February 2003 edition of *Readers Digest* and the April 2003 edition of *Smithsonian*. In addition, a number of videos have been produced for television and a PBS television special *Main Stream* aired in December 2002. Chad continues his efforts to educate the public regarding environmental river issues through media contact.

In June 2002, Chad accepted the Jefferson Award in the United States Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. The Jefferson Award is America's version of the Nobel Prize for public service. Receiving the award along with Chad in 2002 were Rudolph Giuliani, Bill and Melinda Gates and Lilly Tartikoff.

In August 2002, Chad was invited by the Coca-Cola Company to attend the World Summit on Sustainable Environments in Johannesburg, South Africa. He met and shared information about his river cleanup projects with people from all over the world. More specifically, he met the group that conducted the "Mission Antarctica" project. Their objective is to remove tons of trash that has been left behind by numerous expeditions in Antarctica.



Chad meets Laura Bush in Washington D.C. when receiving the Jefferson Award.

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Community Cleanup in St. Charles, MO.



Chad, Anne Hunt and volunteers working hard at Big River Cleanup.



Kids cleanup on board and off the Harriet Bishop at the Big River Cleanup.



Volunteers sort recyclables at a community cleanup.



Barge at Big River Cleanup, Minneapolis



One piece at a time.

HISTORY WHERE WE'VE BEEN ▼▲▼▲▼▲

While growing up on the Mississippi River, Chad Pregracke loved boating, fishing and clamming, but hated what the river looked like—inside and out. Hence the start of the Mississippi River Beautification & Restoration Project. With some help from a few friends, a grant from Alcoa and several small community donations, Chad cleaned approximately 100 miles along the Iowa/Illinois Quad Cities shoreline. In his first year he collected, loaded, unloaded and recycled over 45,000 pounds of trash.

1997

1998

Chad met two major milestones in 1998: he and his volunteer crew conducted the largest cleanup ever by removing 400,000 pounds of trash from the islands and shorelines along a 435-mile stretch from Guttenberg, IA to St. Louis, MO. As part of this initiative, the Iowa/Illinois Quad Cities gathered for the first community-wide cleanup. With a special in-kind donation from Alcoa, he established *Living Lands & Waters (LL&W)*, a non-profit organization to protect, preserve and restore all great rivers of this land.

LL&W met two major goals: it expanded to the Illinois River, cleaning 273 miles of shoreline from Grafton to Joliet, and established the Illinois Beautification & Restoration Project. At the first *River Relief* celebration, the organization kicked off the Mississippi River Adopt-a-Mile Project, which encourages companies, groups and individuals to take an active role in the perpetual maintenance of the river. Subsequently, many miles of shoreline have been adopted and maintained by hundreds of dedicated people.

1999

2000

Because of the generous donation of two barges, the crew began storing trash on board while sweeping the Mississippi River. With the addition of more sophisticated equipment, LL&W began employing a core group of crew members. As the garbage piled high from along a 435-mile stretch of shoreline, national and international media headlined Chad's efforts and the problems of a trashed river. In Buffalo, IA, volunteers helped in the removal of an abandoned barge, the largest item to date. The grand finale was marked by an impressive and inspirational community celebration called *River Relief*.

LL&W cleaned three rivers in a seven state area—the Ohio, the Missouri and the Mississippi. Fourteen communities along the Mississippi joined the crew in local cleanups, but the largest effort was in Columbia, MO, where 500 volunteers scoured 35 miles of Missouri shoreline. Once again, Buffalo, IA hosted another *River Relief* celebration where 800 participants gathered to hear environmental speakers and music along the water's edge. LL&W also purchased and refurbished a used tugboat. This more powerful tugboat completed the equipment base of the project. This, along with a crane and barges, will make the operation very efficient in years to come. Over 600 tons of debris, including one sunken barge, were removed!

2001

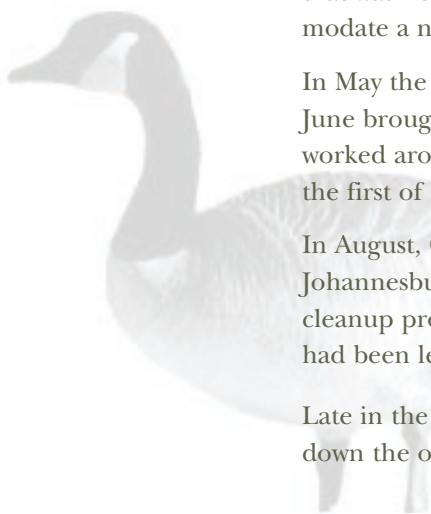
2002

The Ohio River was the focus at the end of February, and the crew worked until driven back down river in April due to flooding, seeking safe harbor with friends at Marquette Barge Company in Paducah, KY. When they saw that LL&W had limited living space on a houseboat, they offered a barge with two buildings on it that was not being used. The crew went to work immediately to repair and redesign the building to accommodate a new educational center for on-board presentations and workshops.

In May the entire fleet and crew returned to the Mississippi and departed for Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN. June brought the largest cleanup on record! Partnering with 52 organizations and companies, LL&W worked around the clock with 1,100 volunteers to collect, load and recycle over 92 tons of trash. That was the first of 14 community river cleanup projects that followed on the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers.

In August, Chad left the crew for 10 days to attend the World Summit of Sustainable Environments in Johannesburg, South Africa. The Coca-Cola Company invited him to share information about the river cleanup projects with members of Mission Antarctica, the group who removed tons of discarded trash that had been left behind by expeditions in Antarctica.

Late in the year, LL&W returned to the Ohio River to continue the cleanup efforts. Although the crew shut down the operation in December due to snow and ice, they returned to the Ohio River in February 2003.





WHERE WE'RE GOING FUTURE



❧ **Big River Education Workshops**—In 2003, *Living Lands & Waters* is expanding its river education efforts by hosting a series of one-day workshops on the Mississippi River. These workshops are geared to educate teachers and cleanriver advocates about the overall health and ecology of the river. Workshops will be offered throughout May in cooperation with several state and federal agencies. A portion of each workshop will feature the new floating classroom and culminate in smaller boat excursions to visit various river sites. Participants can expect to expand their knowledge of the Big River as well as receive educational materials on the Big River to take back to their classrooms, civic groups, or youth organizations.

Tammy Becker

Tammy Becker is a graduate of Western Illinois University and former U.S. Peace Corps and Americorps VISTA volunteer. She is working with *Living Lands & Waters* as the Education Coordinator. She is currently coordinating the Big River Workshops that will take place in Illinois and Iowa as well as all other education efforts in 2003.

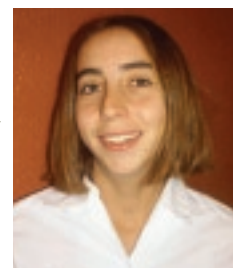


Bryan Hopkins

Bryan Hopkins is an Environmental Education Specialist for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. He is coordinating the Big River Education Workshops taking place in Missouri and is the primary facilitator. Bryan designed the classroom material, which workshop participants will incorporate into their existing curricula.

Lisa Hoffmann

RIVERBOTTOM FOREST RESTORATION Lisa Hoffmann is the Coordinator for the pilot tree planting project. Lisa has worked with Chad the last four years and is a recent graduate from Southern Illinois University–Carbondale, with a Bachelor's degree in Forestry. She will work closely with state and federal agencies to coordinate reforestation and beautification efforts along the rivers. The Riverbottom Forest Restoration Project will replace long depleted mast (nut) and fruit trees along the islands and shorelines of the Mississippi River. This will promote greater diversity of tree species, and provide increased food and habitat sources for the native and migratory wildlife of the river.



Anne Hunt

UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMUNITY CLEANUP PROJECTS

Anne Hunt resides on a houseboat in St. Paul, MN, working as an Environmental Consultant. She helped Chad plan *River Relief* and coordinate cleanup efforts along a 40-mile stretch of the Mississippi in 2002. In 2003, Anne is the Upper Mississippi River Cleanup Coordinator and is organizing cleanup efforts in Minnesota and Wisconsin.



*From the River Cleanup Crew
and the rest of us at Living Lands & Waters,
we would like to thank all of you
for your continued support.*



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Wildlife photography taken by Quad City Artist Art Norris, www.americanslide.com
Report design by T. Hutch Studio